

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

providing an operating system package that includes a first configuration file, the operating system package comprising a standalone package to run a computer system without requiring additional software and the first configuration file including information used by the operating system package to install first drivers for a first set of devices on a computer;

providing a second configuration file external to the operating system package, the second configuration file including information to direct the installation of a second driver for a second device;

installing the second driver on the computer based on the information in the second configuration file; and

installing the operating system package on the computer based on the information in the second configuration file.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising:

executing a setup program of the operating system package to install the second driver.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the second device is not included in the first set of devices.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising installing applications after the second driver and the operating system are installed.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising determining one installation procedure from among a plurality of options.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the second device is identified dynamically.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the dynamic identification is at least one of automated and user-driven.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the second device is at least one of an ISA, PCI, SCSI, and an IDE device.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the second device is at least one of a display device, a sound device, a modem, and a controller.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein installing the operating system includes patching errors in the first configuration file with information in the second configuration file.

44. (Currently Amended) An article comprising at least one computer readable storage medium storing instructions to cause a computer to:

generate an external configuration file that is external to an operating system package, the operating system package comprising a standalone package to run a computer system without requiring additional software and the external configuration file including information to direct the installation of a driver for a particular device and the operating system package including an internal configuration file used by the operating system package to install other drivers for other devices on the computer;

install the driver for the particular device of the computer based on the information in the external configuration file; and

install the operating system package on the computer based on the information in the external configuration file.

45. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 44, wherein said at least one storage medium stores instructions to cause the computer to install applications after the particular driver and the operating system package are installed.

46. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 44, wherein said at least one storage medium stores instructions to cause the computer to determine one installation procedure from among a plurality of options.

47. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 44, wherein said at least one storage medium stores instructions to cause the computer to dynamically identify the particular device.

48. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 44, wherein the particular device is at least one of an ISA, PCI, SCSI, and an IDE device.

49. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 44, wherein the particular device is at least one of a display device, a sound device, a modem, and a controller.

50. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 44, wherein said at least one storage medium stores instructions to cause the computer to install the operating system by a technique that includes patching errors in an OS configuration file with information in the external configuration file.

51. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 44, wherein said at least one storage medium stores instructions to cause the computer to install the driver for the second device and the operating system package contemporaneously.
